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041556Z May 05

UNCLAS MADRID 001710

SIPDIS

STATE PLEASE PASS TO DHHS/NIH/FIC: SONJA MADERA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: TBIO OSCI KSCA SP

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASSESSMENT OF FOREIGN POLICY

IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECT NO. 1 U01 AI61242-01 DIRECTLY TO FOREIGN INSTITUTIONS

REF: STATE 074308

Per reftel request, Embassy contacted "ROVI Laboratorios Farmaceuticos." An assistant to principal investigator Juan Lopez-Belmonte informed us that ROVI is part of a three-party consortium which also includes an Austrian and German companies. The project is currently in the phase of scientific research development and ROVI's eventual role would be to package the product. However, our interlocutor stressed that ROVI has not yet signed a contract and thus its eventual participation in the consortium is not yet assured.

MANZANARES